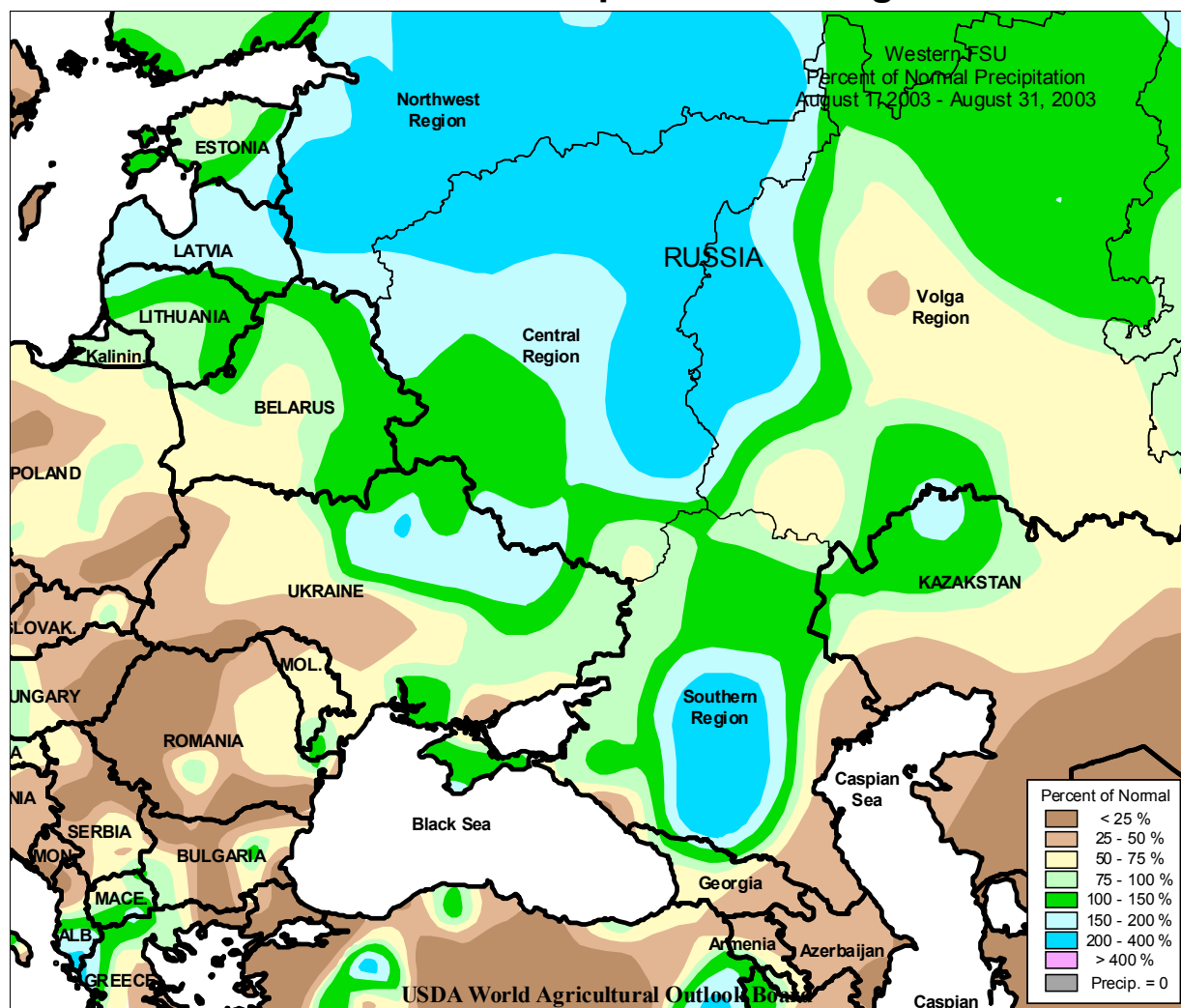


FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

Percent of Normal Precipitation for August 2003



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

September 11, 2003

JAWF Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
(USDA/NOAA) World Agricultural Outlook Board

- o In August, near- to above-normal precipitation delayed small grain harvesting across northern Russia, but favored filling corn, sunflowers, and sugar beets in most of Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia.
- o Below-normal precipitation limited moisture for filling corn in southwestern Ukraine and Moldova.
- o In major spring wheat producing areas of Russia and Kazakhstan, below-normal rainfall in August followed a wet weather pattern that had persisted in these areas during most of the growing season. The drier weather pattern was accompanied by above-normal temperatures, hastening maturity in crops. Since early September, unseasonably warm, dry weather helped harvest activities.